

REMARKS

The new claims find support in the Applicants' earliest claimed priority application, U.S. Patent Application No. 60/167,523, filed November 24, 1999.

The claims as amended herein correspond to the allowed claims of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/721,870, now issued as the claims of U.S. Patent No. 6,632,621.

The polynucleotide, and polypeptide, sequences recited in the claims as amended are variants of each other, presenting molecules of similar structure that have the same function. The structural and functional characteristics of these molecules are supported in the application as filed.

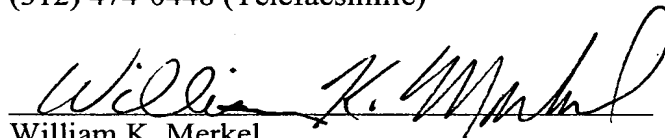
The Applicants respectfully submit that the claims as amended herein are in condition for allowance and respectfully request notification thereof.

Respectfully submitted,

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